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## THE IDENTITY OF THE PLANT REFERRED TO AS ANDROMEDA BY W. T. M. FORBES

The name Andromeda has been used ambiguously in the lepidopteran literature. A striking example is in its mention as a larval host for *Datana major* Grote and Robinson and *Datana ranaeceps* (Guérin) by Forbes (1948, Lepidoptera of New York . . . II: Cornell U. Agric. Expt. Sta. Mem. 274, p. 215). The ranges of both of these species lie almost entirely to the south and east of the only species of the genus *Andromeda* covered by Fernald (1950, Gray's Manual of Botany, 8th ed. Amer. Book Co., N.Y., p. 1123). Furthermore, Robinson and Fernald (1908, Gray's New Manual of Botany, 7th ed., Amer. Book Co., p. 635) list *Andromeda* as an old generic name for three species of *Lyonia*. They also include *Pieris floribunda* (Pursh) B. & H. in *Andromeda*. In an earlier work, Forbes (1923, Lepidoptera of New York . . . I: Cornell U. Agric. Expt. Sta. Mem. 68, p. 700) makes the following citation in the food index "Andromeda (Andromeda, Lyonia): villela 312." The moth (*Holcocera villela* Busck) is listed in the text as feeding on *Andromeda ligustrina*, a plant placed in *Lyonia* by Fernald (1950) and Robinson and Fernald (1908).

I have repeatedly found eggs and larvae of both of the above *Datana* on *Lyonia mariana* (L.) D. Don. in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. *D. major* also utilizes *Leucothoe racemosa* (L.) Gray about equally often. Older larvae of both occasionally wander to highbush blueberries (*Vaccinium* 2 or 3 spp.). No species of *Pieris* or *Andromeda* is native to that region.

Thus, lepidopterists should consider host records of Andromeda (or Andromeda) cautiously unless the species is stated. It is virtually certain that such records for Datana and probably Catocala andromedae (Guenée) (Forbes, 1954, Lepidoptera of New York . . . III, Cornell U. Agric. Expt. Sta. Mem. 329, p. 333) actually refer to some species of Lyonia.

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